GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:248
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
PERFORMANCE OF INDIAN COUNCIL OF PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have Indian Council of Philosophical Research under its aegis;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the council alongwith other details;

(c) its recent contributions to India's academic advancement alongwith its annual budget for the last three years;

(d) whether there is a proposal to allow such bodies to operate in a totally autonomous atmosphere simultaneously with efforts by it to raise its own funds by printing and publishing and other allied works and initiatives; and

(e) if so, the details of steps proposed by the Government to allow such bodies to be independent of Government patronage?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) was set up in 1977 with its main objectives to review the progress of research in Philosophy from time to time; to sponsor or assist projects or programmes of research in Philosophy; to provide financial assistance to institutions / organisations and individuals engaged in research in Philosophy and allied disciplines; to organise/ sponsor seminars/ conferences and to bring out/ sponsor publications relating to Philosophy.

The ICPR functions through its Research Project Committee(RPC), Governing Body and Council in accordance with its Memorandum of Association and Rules.

(c) Important programmes undertaken by ICPR during the last 3 years are indicated below :-

(i) The Council continued its efforts in regard to the recovery of Indian Philosophy through various programmes aiming at the promotion of research in Indian Philosophy (Classical as well as contemporary) and comparative study of Indian and Western thought under its schemes of fellowships/conferences/seminars etc.

(ii) An international conferences on the theme Spirituality, Science and Technology was organised in December 2000-2001.

(iii)A National Seminar on Philosophy of Value Oriented Education was organised in January 2002.

(iv) An international conference on Indian Philosophy, Science and Culture was organised in March − April 2003.

(v) 4 eminent scholars were deputed for a study and training programme at Paris under Indo-French Cultural Programmes.

(vi) Lectures of 6 eminent national philosophers and 5 eminent overseas philosophers were organised in different parts of the country.

(vii) A round table on the philosophy of Sri Aurobindo was organised in the XII World Congress of Philosophy held in Istanbul, Turkey in August 2003.

(viii) 15 books relating to Indian Philosophy, Epistemology, Ontology, Axiology and Bhakti were published.

(ix) ICPR continued its collaboration with the Project of History of Indian Science, Philosophy & Culture.

The grants in aid as indicated below was provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to ICPR during the last 3 years :-

Year	Plan (Rs. in lakhs)	Non-Plan (Rs. in lakhs)
2001-2002	226.00	217.00
2002-2003	216.00	217.00
2003-2004 (Budget estimates)	240.00	240.00

(d) & (e) : ICPR is already autonomous in its functioning. Government has advised ICPR to increase its revenue from other sources by sale proceeds of publications etc. so as to reduce dependence on Government funding.